

REMARKS

The Examiner's indication that claim 10-29 are allowed is noted with appreciation. The Examiner's indication that claims 4-7 would be allowable if rewritten to include the elements of the base and any intervening claims is also noted with appreciation. Claim 4 has been canceled and new claim 30 has been added.

Claims 1-2 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 60-065945 to Minoru. The Applicants respectfully transverse this rejection, and submit that claims 1-2 and 8 (along with claim 3) are not anticipated by Minoru.

Claim 1 recites "one or more springs disposed within said tensioner." As discussed in Amendment B, Minoru discloses a tensioner with an external coil spring wrapped around the outside of the physical body of the tensioner with one end inserted directly into the tensioner arm. The spring of Minoru is not within the tensioner, as required by claim 1, and by dependency by claims 2 and 3.

Minoru does not disclose that a rotatable body is biased by force against the rotatable body from the one or more springs, as recited in claim 2. Instead, Minoru discloses that its external coil spring provides a biasing force against the arm by virtue of its one end being inserted directly into the tensioner arm.

Claim 8 recites that "said first chamber disposed to move the rotatably body about the pivot point in a generally planar rotation when pressurized by the hydraulic fluid." As discussed in Amendment B, the rotation of the arm member of Minoru is due entirely to its external coil spring. Thus, Minoru discloses the opposite of using hydraulic fluid to move its arm.

The abstract of Minoru cited by the Office action states "If the cam chain becomes loose and moved, the arm member 12 rotates due to the pressure of the coil spring. Thereby, the screw member is moved in the direction of D, the volume of the hollow chamber is increased, and a pressurized oil flows into the hollow chamber 30 through a check valve 17." In contrast to the tensioner of claim 8, the oil will not flow into the hollow chamber 30 of Minoru until after the volume of the hollow chamber is increased due to rotation by the coil spring.

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Amdt. dated June 11, 2004
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For the reasons set forth above, the Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3 and 8. Please charge any fees required by this amendment to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

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Respectfully submitted,
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